

CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

December 8, 2008

SPECIAL SESSION

The Regular Session of the Auburn City Council was held in the Council Chambers, City Hall, 1225 Lincoln Way, Auburn, California on Monday, December 8, 2008 immediately following the Auburn Urban Development meeting with Mayor Keith Nesbitt presiding and City Clerk Joseph G.R. Labrie recording the minutes.

CALL TO ORDER

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Color Guard provided by Boy Scout Troop 19

ROLL CALL:

Council Members Present: Bob Snyder, J. M. Holmes, Bridget Powers, Keith Nesbitt

Council Members Absent: Kevin Hanley

Staff Members Present: City Manager Robert Richardson, City Attorney Michael Colantuono, Community Development Director Will Wong, Senior Planner Reg Murray, Fire Chief Mark D'Ambrogi, Engineering Division Manager Bernie Schroeder, Transit Analyst Megan Siren, Administrative Services Director Andy Heath, Administrative Manager Joanna Belanger

1. Public Comment

None.

2. Remarks from the Outgoing Mayor

Mayor Nesbitt said it was an honor to serve as the City's Mayor for the past year. He said he was fortunate enough to preside over the lighting of the marquee at the State Theater and the opening of the School Park Preserve. He named some of the accomplishments of the Council which included the Streetscape Plan and the Maidu Sidewalk Project to Skyridge School. He outlined some of the challenges including the budget and the regional sewer. He said he felt the voice of the people was heard throughout the year. He expressed his thanks for the opportunity to serve as Mayor.

3. Election Results

City Clerk Joseph Labrie read the results of the Canvass of Vote. He said the City of Auburn has 8,570 registered voters. He advised that 7,539 residents voted, equating to 87.9%.

4. **Oath of Office**

Justice Rick Sims administered oath to City Council Members, City Clerk and City Treasurer elected November 4, 2006.

Dr. Bill Kirby	Council Member
Keith Nesbitt	Council Member
George Williams	Treasurer
Joseph Labrie	City Clerk

5. **Council Reorganization**

Mayor Nesbitt presented outgoing Council Member Bob Snyder with a plaque in honor of his service to the City of Auburn.

A. **Nomination and Selection of Mayor**

Mayor Keith Nesbitt declared nominations open for the position of Mayor. Council Member Powers nominated Council Member Holmes. Council approved the nomination by voice.

B. **Nomination and Selection of Mayor Pro Tem**

Newly selected Mayor Holmes declared nominations open for Mayor Pro Tem. Mayor Nesbitt nominated Council Member Bridget Powers. Council approved the nomination by voice.

6. **Oath of Office to Newly Selected Mayor and Mayor Pro Tem**

Justice Sims administered the oath of office to newly selected Mayor Holmes and Mayor Pro Tem Powers.

7. **Presentation from Newly Selected Mayor**

Mayor Holmes presented outgoing Mayor Nesbitt with a plaque in recognition of his service.

8. **Exchange of Council Seats**

Mayor and Council Members were seated in order as set by precedent.

Outgoing Mayor	Seat 1	Nesbitt
Alphabetically Seated	Seat 2	Hanley
New Mayor	Seat 3	Holmes
Alphabetically Seated	Seat 4	Kirby

9. **Planning Commission Appointment**

Council Member Kirby explained that appointing a Planning Commissioner is a very important responsibility. He said the Commission is a tool that the City Council uses to facilitate planning. He explained that they are not an enforcement or policy making body and are not directly responsible to the citizens of Auburn. The Planning Commission's responsibility is to ensure that projects meet the criteria established by the elected officials.

Council Member Kirby advised that he received a number of applications and will review them carefully. He said he wants to interview each applicant and go through a process with them that will allow him to make the best choice. He said that in the meantime he will recommend the appointment Bob Snyder, who is also an applicant for the position. He said Bob Snyder has been a former Planning Commission, Council Member and Mayor and his experience will be an asset to the Commission.

By **RESOLUTION** ratify the Planning Commission appointment of Bob Snyder by Council Member Dr. Bill Kirby. **MOTION: Kirby/Nesbitt/**
Approved 4:0 (Absent Hanley)

10. **Mayor' Address**

Mayor Holmes recognized other elected officials in the audience, Curt Smith, Auburn Recreation District and County Supervisor Jim Holmes. He thanked Justice Sims for administering the oaths of office to City officials. He also thanked Boy Scout Troop No. 19 and Mr. Anderson and Mr. Smith for the color guard presentation. He thanked the Council for allowing him to serve as Mayor again. He also thanked the citizens of Auburn for his reelection in 2006 and his wife Rita for her support.

Mayor Holmes said the world has changed since last he was mayor three years ago. He said the City of Auburn has already taken steps to deal with the economic downturn. He said one of the issues for the upcoming year will be the budget with the highest priority given to Police, Fire and Public Works. He said a decision will also have to be made as to whether or not the City should stay local with the wastewater treatment plant or go with the regional system. He said he is calling for an Economic Summit to develop a comprehensive economic development strategy for the City. Business-related persons and groups in the community will be asked to attend. He said the City currently has projects underway and some upcoming projects. He said the Airport East Hangar Project should be completed in February which will allow for the leasing of land for further

hangar development. He said he will encourage the annexation of city-owned property adjoining the airport. He advised that the Streetscape project is ongoing. He said the Courthouse parking lot improvement should come before the Council in January. Mayor Holmes said that he expects that a request for proposals for the public-private partnership, regarding the establishment of a solar purchase-power agreement, to be issued within the next two months to lower costs for the City as soon as possible. He said it is anticipated that the Hampton Inn project will break ground by mid-2009. He said discussion continues with Costco regarding its proposed store on Nevada Street. He said the Baltimore Ravine Specific Plan may move forward at a lesser scale. He advised that the street overlay projects may be delayed until funding is available.

Mayor Holmes stated that the most important asset that the City has is its employees and volunteers. He said he is proposing to the City Manager that an Employee of the Quarter be recognized as well as a Volunteer of the Quarter. He said he would like to make presentations by the end of the first quarter of 2009.

Mayor Holmes stated, "As one who served this Country in uniform for over thirty years, I am very sensitive to the proper display of our national colors." He said he has asked that all flags displayed at night be illuminated by the end of January 2009.

Mayor Holmes advised that the City is initiating changes to keep the public and the City Council better informed. He appealed to the residents of Auburn to "Think Auburn First" when making purchases. He said he is working with local merchants to reestablish the lay-away programs to make it easier for customers to make purchases without the use of credit cards and interest fees.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Holmes adjourned the meeting. Refreshments in the Rose Room followed.

Keith Nesbitt, Mayor

J. M. Holmes, Mayor

Joseph G. R. Labrie, City Clerk